

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, and 12-16 are pending in the present application after this amendment cancels claims 2, 8, and 10, and adds new claims 14-16. No new matter is added by the amendments, which find support throughout the specification and claims. In particular, the amendments find support at least in the specification at page 8, lines 1-6, and page 20, lines 5-17. In view of the amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, and 13 (claims 2, 8, and 10 having been canceled) stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 5,606,344 to Blaskey et al. (hereinafter Blaskey) in view of United States Patent No. 5,999,084 to Armstrong (hereinafter Armstrong). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 relates to a recording medium on which are recorded computer-readable and executable software programs that perform processing by taking as commands an output from a controller which has a variable output pressure sensing means. In the recording medium of claim 1, the software programs include processing programs that display messages on a screen of a computer in accordance with the output of the controller, and each message includes a pre-defined phrase having a plurality of phrase components that are sequentially displayed on the screen in a pre-defined order. In amended claim 1, the phrase components are *sequentially displayed* on the screen in said pre-defined order *at a first rate that is a linear function of a second rate of change per unit time of an output value* of the variable output controller pressure sensing means.

Initially, there does not appear to be any evidence of motivation to combine Blaskey and Armstrong. The Office Action asserts that the combination of the references provides greater

control and precision in regard to the display of information. (Office Action; page 4, lines 1-4). The Office Action further cites to Armstrong in support of the combination. However, the cited section of Armstrong does not provide a specific motivation to combine that reference with Blaskey, and therefore the combination of Blaskey and Armstrong is not proper. The Examiner merely states an advantage of the present invention as a motivation to combine the references, and thus improperly resorts to hindsight reasoning in justifying the combination.

Blaskey apparently describes an information apparatus that displays text in response to a signal from a keypad. The Office Action asserts that Blaskey discloses that each message comprises a pre-defined phrase including words forming a syntactic unit, as recited in claims 1, 4, and 9. Armstrong apparently discloses a sensor having a variable pressure sensing capability. However, neither reference discloses or suggests that a magnitude of an output value obtained from a variable output pressure sensing means determines the sequential rate at which the phrase components are displayed on the screen, as recited in claims 1, 4, and 9. Therefore for at least this reason, the claims are allowable.

However, in the interest of expediting prosecution, the claims have been amended to further clarify the subject matter recited therein. For instance, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the phrase components are sequentially displayed on the screen in said pre-defined order at a first rate that is a *linear* function of a second rate of change per unit time of an output value of the variable output controller pressure sensing means. It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references disclose *displaying a phrase at a rate that is a linear function of a rate of change of a pressure sensing output value*, as now recited in claim 1. Blaskey does not disclose or suggest a magnitude of an output value determining a sequential rate of display, as admitted in the Office Action. (Office Action; page 3, lines 14-16). In fact, Blaskey does not disclose

measuring a change of pressure at all. Armstrong apparently discloses a variable conductance sensor and pressure-sensitive variable conductance material. (Armstrong; Abstract). However, there is no disclosure, or suggestion, in Armstrong of measuring *a rate of change of pressure*, nor is there any mention in Armstrong of *an acceleration*, i.e., a rate of change over time, of a pressure sensor. Furthermore, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Armstrong of a second rate being *a linear function* of a first rate of change of the pressure sensor output. Therefore, neither of the cited references disclose or suggest a rate of sequentially displaying phrase components being *a linear function* of a second rate of change per unit time of an output value of the variable output controller pressure sensing means. Since neither of the references discloses this feature, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the references.

Independent claims 4 and 9 include a feature similar to the feature discussed above in regard to claim 1, and therefore these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 5 and 7 depend from claim 4 and claims 12 and 13 depend from claim 9, and therefore these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims are allowable.

New claims 14-16 depend from claims 1, 4, and 9, respectively, and therefore these claims are allowable at least for the same reasons as their respective base claims are allowable.

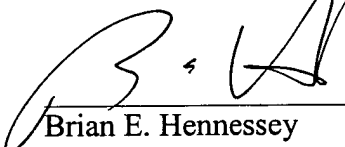
Additionally, claims 14, 15, and 16 recite that the function includes a correction for a maximum value of the second rate of change to a program-set maximum pressure sensing value rate of change and a proportionate correction for intermediate values. It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references disclose or suggest this feature, and therefore for at least this additional reason claims 14, 15, and 16 are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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